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January 11, 2010  
For Immediate Release

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## **Property Claims Set another Record in 2009**

### **More than \$26 Million given back to Wisconsin residents**

**Madison** – State Treasurer Dawn Marie Sass announced today that the Unclaimed Property Department in the Office of the State Treasurer paid out a record-breaking number of claims in 2009 and the second highest payout to Wisconsin Residents ever.

“As a result of our annual State Tour and Outreach Events, more Wisconsinites are looking for their money and we are happy to help them find it and give it back to them,” Treasurer Sass Said.

The Unclaimed Property Department received **26,238** claims in 2009 and gave **\$26,801,064** back to residents. In 2008, the Department received **25,619** claims and gave back **\$28,055,878**.

Since Treasurer Sass took office in 2007, claim requests and claim payouts have set new annual records. Treasurer Sass links that to the fact she visited all 72 counties in the state once every year since taking office.

“It’s not only my duty to meet as many Wisconsinites as I can and help them find money the state might be holding, it’s my passion,” Treasurer Sass said. “I love the Unclaimed Property tour and getting around the state to get the message out. There’s nothing better for me than to meet a person, search the database with them, find their name and money and reunite them with their cash.”

Unclaimed Property consists of uncashed payroll checks, utility refunds, stocks, dividends and safe deposit box contents. Under Wisconsin Statute, after 1 to 5 years of inactivity businesses across the country are mandated to turn all unclaimed money, stock and safe deposit boxes to the State Treasurer’s office for safekeeping. There is NO time limit for collecting your unclaimed property.

For more information on Unclaimed Property, visit [www.statetreasury.wisconsin.gov](http://www.statetreasury.wisconsin.gov).

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